

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

First Session of the One Hundred Ninth Congress convened.

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert of the State of Illinois was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1–S34*

**Measures Submitted:** Six resolutions were submitted, as follows: S. Res. 1–4, and S. Con. Res. 1–2. **Pages S28–29**

**Administration of Oath of Office:** The Senators-elect were administered the oath of office by the Vice President of the United States. **Page S4**

#### Measures Passed:

**Notification to the President:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 1, informing the President of the United States that a quorum of each House is assembled. **Page S6**

**Notification to the House of Representatives:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 2, informing the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled. **Page S6**

**Fixing the Hour of Daily Meeting:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 3, fixing the hour of daily meeting of the Senate. **Page S6**

**Counting of Electoral Votes:** Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 1, to provide for the counting on January 6, 2005, of the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States. **Pages S6–7**

Subsequently, the Chair appointed Senators Lott and Dodd as tellers on the part of the Senate to count electoral votes. **Pages S6–7**

**Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies:** Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 2, to extend the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the provisions of S. Con. Res. 93 and S. Con. Res. 94 of the One Hundred Eighth Congress. **Page S7**

**Expressing Sympathy For Tsunami Victims:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 4, expressing the sympathy and pledging the support of the United States Senate

and the people of the United States for the victims of the powerful earthquake and devastating tsunami that struck Bangladesh, Burma, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, the Maldives, the Seychelles, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, and other areas of South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Africa, on December 26, 2004. **Pages S7–11**

#### Unanimous Consent Agreements:

**Authority for Select Committee on Ethics:** Senate agreed that, for the duration of the 109th Congress, the Ethics Committee be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate. **Page S7**

**Time for Roll Call Votes:** Senate agreed that, during the 109th Congress, there be a limitation of 15 minutes each upon any roll call vote, with the warning signal to be sounded at the midway point, beginning at the last 7½ minutes, and when roll call votes are of 10-minute duration, the warning signal be sounded at the beginning of the last 7½ minutes. **Page S7**

**Authority to Receive Reports:** Senate agreed that, during the 109th Congress, it be in order for the Secretary of the Senate to receive reports at the desk when presented by a Senator at any time during the day of the session of the Senate. **Page S7**

**Recognition of Leadership:** Senate agreed that, the Majority and Minority Leaders may daily have up to 10 minutes each on each calendar day following the prayer, and disposition of the reading of, or the approval of, the Journal. **Page S7**

**House Parliamentary Floor Privileges:** Senate agreed that, the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives and his five assistants be given the privileges of the floor during the 109th Congress. **Page S7**

**Printing of Conference Reports:** Senate agreed that, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule

XXVIII, conference reports and statements accompanying them not be printed as Senate reports when such conference reports and statements have been printed as a House report unless specific request is made in the Senate in each instance to have such a report printed. **Page S7**

**Authority for Appropriations Committee:** Senate agreed that, the Committee on Appropriations be authorized during the 109th Congress to file reports during adjournments or recesses of the Senate on appropriations bills, including joint resolutions, together with any accompanying notices of motions to suspend Rule XVI, pursuant to Rule V, for the purpose of offering certain amendments to such bills or joint resolutions, which proposed amendments shall be printed. **Page S7**

**Authority for Corrections in Engrossment:** Senate agreed that, for the duration of the 109th Congress, the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to make technical and clerical corrections in the engrossments of all Senate-passed bills and resolutions, Senate amendments to House bills and resolutions, Senate amendments to House amendments to Senate bills and resolutions, and Senate amendments to House amendments to House bills or resolutions. **Page S7**

**Authority to Receive Messages and Sign Enrolled Measures:** Senate agreed that, for the duration of the 109th Congress, when the Senate is in recess or adjournment, the Secretary of the Senate is authorized to receive messages from the President of the United States, and—with the exception of House bills, joint resolutions and concurrent resolutions—messages from the House of Representatives; and that they be appropriately referred; and that the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Acting President pro tempore be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions. **Page S7**

**Privileges of the Floor:** Senate agreed that, for the duration of the 109th Congress, Senators be allowed to leave at the desk with the Journal Clerk the names of two staff members who will be granted the privilege of the floor during the consideration of the specific matter noted, and that the Sergeant-at-Arms be instructed to rotate such staff members as space allows. **Page S7**

**Referral of Treaties and Nominations:** Senate agreed that, for the duration of the 109th Congress, it be in order to refer treaties and nominations on the day when they are received from the President, even when the Senate has no executive session that day. **Page S7**

**Authority to Introduce Measures:** Senate agreed that, for the duration of the 109th Congress, Senators may be allowed to bring to the desk bills, joint

resolutions, concurrent resolutions, and simple resolutions, for referral to appropriate committees. **Page S7**

**Authority to Introduce Measures:** Senate agreed that, it not be in order to introduce bills or resolutions, until January 24, 2005. **Page S7**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Mike Johanns, of Nebraska, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

Carlos M. Gutierrez, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Commerce.

Samuel W. Bodman, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Energy.

Albert Henry Konetzni, Jr., of New York, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2009.

Gregory B. Jaczko, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2008.

Michael O. Leavitt, of Utah, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Jeffrey Robert Brown, of Illinois, to be a Member of Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2008.

Condoleezza Rice, of California, to be Secretary of State.

Adolfo A. Franco, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2008.

Roger Francisco Noriega, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2006.

Margaret Spellings, of Texas, to be Secretary of Education.

Alberto R. Gonzales, of Texas, to be Attorney General.

Jim Nicholson, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs. **Page S34**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S28**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S29–30**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S28**

**Privilege of the Floor:** **Page S30**

**Quorum Calls:** One quorum call was taken today. (Total—1) **Page S5**

**Adjournment:** Senate met at 12:01 p.m. for the convening of the First Session of the 109th Congress, and adjourned at 5:53 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, January 6, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S34.)

## Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Measures Introduced:** 204 public bills, H.R. 11–18, 20–43, 45–49, 51–57, 59–87, 89–90, 92–100, 108–129, 131–152, 155–162, 164–172, 174–188, 190–225, 229–231, 233–237; and; 49 resolutions, H. J. Res. 1–7, 9; H. Con. Res. 1–6, 8–12, and H. Res. 1–18, 20–31 were introduced.

Pages H71–80

### Additional Cosponsors:

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

Filed on December 27, 2004: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Summary of Legislative and Oversight Activities of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–799);

Filed on December 29, 2004: Committee on Small Business. Summary of Activities of the Committee on Small Business for the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–800);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Appropriations. Report on Activities of the Committee on Appropriations, 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–801);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Financial Services. Report on the Activity of the Committee on Financial Services for the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–802);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Energy and Commerce. Report on the Activity of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–803);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Agriculture. Report of the Committee on Agriculture on Activities During the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–804);

Filed on January 3: Committee on the Judiciary. Report of the Activities of the Committee on the Judiciary During the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–805);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. Summary of Activities of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct for the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–806);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Armed Services. Report of the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services, 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–807);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Activities Report of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–808);

Filed on January 3: Committee on International Relations. Legislative Review Activities of the Committee on International Relations, 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–809);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Ways and Means. Report on the Legislative and Oversight Activities of the Committee on Ways and Means During the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–810);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Resources. Report on Legislative and Oversight Activities of the Committee on Resources During the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–811);

Filed on January 3: Select Committee on Homeland Security. Report on Legislative and Oversight Activities of the House Select Committee on Homeland Security During the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–812);

Filed on January 3: Committee on Education and the Workforce. Report on the Activities of the Committee on Education and the Workforce During the 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–813); and

Filed on January 3: Committee on Rules. Survey of Activities of the House Committee on Rules, 108th Congress (H. Rept. 108–814). **Page H71**

**Election of Speaker:** The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert of Illinois was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives and received 226 votes. The Honorable Nancy Pelosi of California received 199 votes, the Honorable John Murtha of Pennsylvania received one vote, and four members-elect voted "present". Earlier, the Clerk appointed Representatives-elect Ney, Larson of Connecticut, Johnson of Connecticut, and Kaptur to act as Tellers. **Pages H2–6**

**Escort Committee:** The Clerk appointed the following committee to escort the Speaker-elect to the Chair: Representatives-elect Pelosi, DeLay, Blunt, Hoyer, Pryce of Ohio, Menendez, Hyde, Evans, Costello, Gutierrez, Manzullo, Rush, LaHood, Weller, Jackson of Illinois, Davis of Illinois, Shimkus, Biggert, Schakowsky, Johnson of Illinois, Kirk, Emanuel, Bean, and Lipinski. **Page H3**

**Administration of the Oath of Office to Members of the 109th Congress:** The Dean of the